

2 9 MAY 1969

Guevara, Ernesto (Che)
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News Service

NEW YORK, May 26 — The American CIA murdered Che Guevara, the man, but gave birth to the legend. Now 20th Century-Fox is trying to murder the legend as well, according to the Liberation News Service.

In its forthcoming movie, "Che," with Omar Shariff playing Che and Jack Palance playing Castro, what can only be called an attempt at a frame-up, not only of individuals but of the entire Cuban revolution, is made and, with it, the role the socialist world, and particularly the Soviet Union, played in the Cuban events and in revolutionary struggle in general.

The script by Michael Wilson casts Che in the role of an impassioned "revolutionary" (i.e., a man of violence) who becomes disillusioned with Castro as a pawn of the Soviets, and denounces the Soviets as "cowardly" for having taken the missiles out of Cuba and for playing a "master's role" in Cuba and Latin America. It is interesting that the writer, Michael Wilson, searching for a "revolutionary" rationale to beat the Soviets with, uses the Chinese line, which he finds made-to-order as a stand-in for the American CIA line.

After Che runs off to Bolivia, like a spiteful child, he finds the peasants less than warm, the peasants less than warm, according to the script "liberated" from 20th Century Fox, and he is finally located by American electronic devices working on the "heat principle"—that is, the heat from the guerrillas' camp-fires was caught on their instruments and led them to where Guevara was hiding.

But by that time Che had grown disillusioned not only with Castro's "revolution" but also with his own — he ends with coarse contempt for the peasants that refused to support him, calling them "pigs," "stupid animals."

Omar Shariff, preparing himself to play the part of Che in the best "method method," reports that he not only read what he

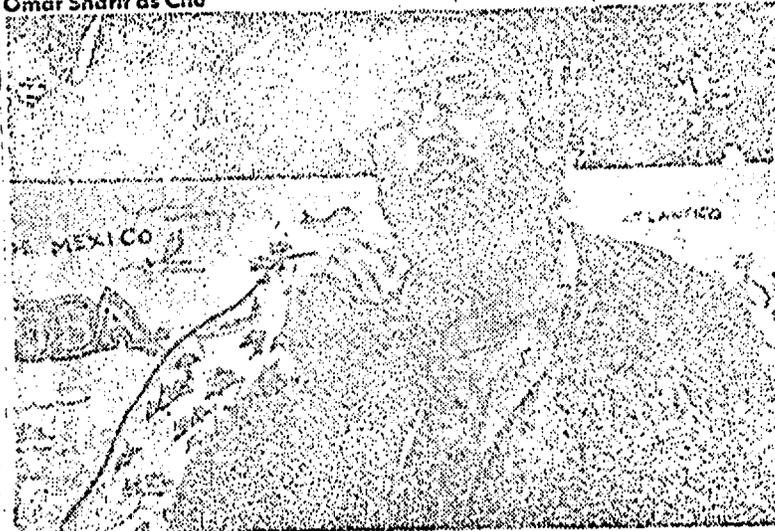
could about Che, but also delved into his psychology and came up with this: "He (Che) thought the world was a lousy place, particularly his part of the world. And he knew he couldn't do anything about it... He wanted to die —

fighting. He was obviously quite masochistic: he liked to punish his own flesh."

The movie is due to open soon in New York and New Left groups vow to organize demonstrations against it.



Omar Shariff as Che



Jack Palance as Fidel